

joint session with Dr. L. M. Powers, Health Officer of Los Angeles, who desired to have Los Angeles adopt an ordinance that would minimize the smoke nuisance. An ordinance was finally drawn up and presented to the Council and will come up for first consideration on July 13th. Its fate is hard to foretell, for the large gas and other corporations will be pitted against it.

Air is a food and on this ground the Commission took up this subject. Meetings were held with engineers and visits were made to the gas plant and other places. There can be but little doubt but that smoke can be prevented from ordinary furnaces using oil as a fuel. The Gas Company and railroads claim they can not prevent it. They are the major offenders, likewise the possessors of greatest political influence.

If the Commission fails in this effort, it intends to bring the subject up again. The cause is a righteous one, the people are in favor of such an ordinance, and all that is needed is an expression from them as persistent and as powerful as that from the big corporations. When this expression is forthcoming the legislators will no doubt be glad to pass the ordinance.

The Commission recognizes the vested material interests of the gas and other corporations, but recognizes also the vested hygienic interests of the people of Los Angeles. It feels the rights of the people in such a matter are vital and equally important. In future issues we will chronicle the further fate of this proposed ordinance.

We urge all Presidents of County Medical Associations who have not already done so, to send in to the State Commission, the names of the members who compose the respective County Pure Food Committees. Unless this is done, much extra correspondence and work will be transferred to the State Commission. The address of the State Commission is Stowell Block, Pasadena, California.

## PUBLICATIONS.

### *Folia Urologica.*

With Professor James Israel of Berlin as Editor-in-Chief, Professor A. Kollmann of Leipzig, Dr. G. Kulisch of Halle and Dr. W. Tamms of Leipzig as associate editors and other principal urologists of Europe as collaborators, these new international archives are announced by the house of W. Klinkhardt, Leipzig. Exhaustive original articles with colored plates and illustrations will be the principal feature of *Folia Urologica*. Contributions will be published in the four languages that are officially used in Congresses and each paper will be summarized in the three other languages. The new publication will contain a department entitled "Events in Urology" in which the regular collaborators will periodically report on the advances in this specialty, after having tested them critically in their respective services and laboratories. Finally *Folia Urologica* is to serve as a means of collecting the annual reports on urological work in hospitals, clinics, etc., throughout the world. With a view to publishing contributions as quickly as possible, the issues of *Folia Urologica* will appear as often as required. Contributions from North, Central and South American authors may be sent to either of the American editorial representatives, William N. Wishard, M. D., Newton-Claypool Building, Indianapolis, Ind., or Ferd C. Valentine, 171 West Seventy-first street, New York.

**Retinoscopy (or shadow test) in the Determination of Refraction at One Meter Distance With the Plane Mirror.** By James Thorington, A. M., M. D., Professor of Diseases of the Eye in the Philadelphia Polyclinic and College for Graduates in medicine; Ophthalmologist to the Elwyn and Vineland Training School for Feeble-Minded Children. Fifth Edition, Revised and Enlarged. Fifty-four Illustrations. Philadelphia, P. Blakiston's Son & Co. 1906.

This small book, now in its fifth edition, calls for little comment. It is an abstract of the author's more extensive writings on retinoscopy. The development of this objective method of determining refraction errors is so intimately linked with Dr. Thorington's name that it gives assurance of authoritative statement. Little used at first, the test is now conceded to be of the greatest value in a certain class of cases, particularly in nystagmus, amblyopia, and in examining young children, the feeble-minded and illiterates. The methods described by the author are simple and clearly given, while the illustrations admirably serve the purpose for which they are designed. Above all other things, the book is practical.

A. J. L.

**Indications for Operations in Disease of the Internal Organs.** By Professor Hermann Schlesinger, M. D., Extraordinary Professor of Medicine in the University of Vienna. Authorized English Translation by Keith W. Monsarrat, M. B., F. R. C. S., Ed. Surgeon to the Northern Hospital, Liverpool. New York, E. B. Treat & Co. 1906.

Professor Schlesinger has written on a subject which is admittedly of the greatest importance at the present time. The question of the indications for operations is one which is constantly presenting itself to the practitioner, and one which is often difficult of decision. With this idea in mind the book has been written. In each chapter remarks on etiology, pathological anatomy, clinical course, diagnosis, and differential diagnosis have been included to enable the practitioner to obtain quickly a general grasp of the condition under consideration. And at the end of each section an excellent bibliography is appended. In the original the work is so well known that it requires no special commendation at this time. The translation is good. We recommend its careful study by all classes of physicians.

A. J. L.

**Our Children. Hints from Practical Experience for Parents and Teachers.** By Paul Carus. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Company. 1906.

This charming little book on the education of children is of particular interest to parents and professional teachers of the young, but it may be profitably read by all classes of readers. For some years the importance of the subject has received more or less universal recognition, nevertheless the first education of babies is generally left to uneducated nurses, who usually have not the slightest idea of the sacredness of their trust and know very little about the training of infants. The first impressions made on a child's mind are especially important as they form the basis of the child's whole future development, and they remain for a long time, sometimes forever, the standard by which all later impressions are measured. Should we not, therefore, exercise the greatest care, and instead of leaving the first mental impressions of children to accident, see to it that they are throughout correct?

It does not seem necessary to us to review the